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SUID AFRIKAANSE BIBLIOTEKE



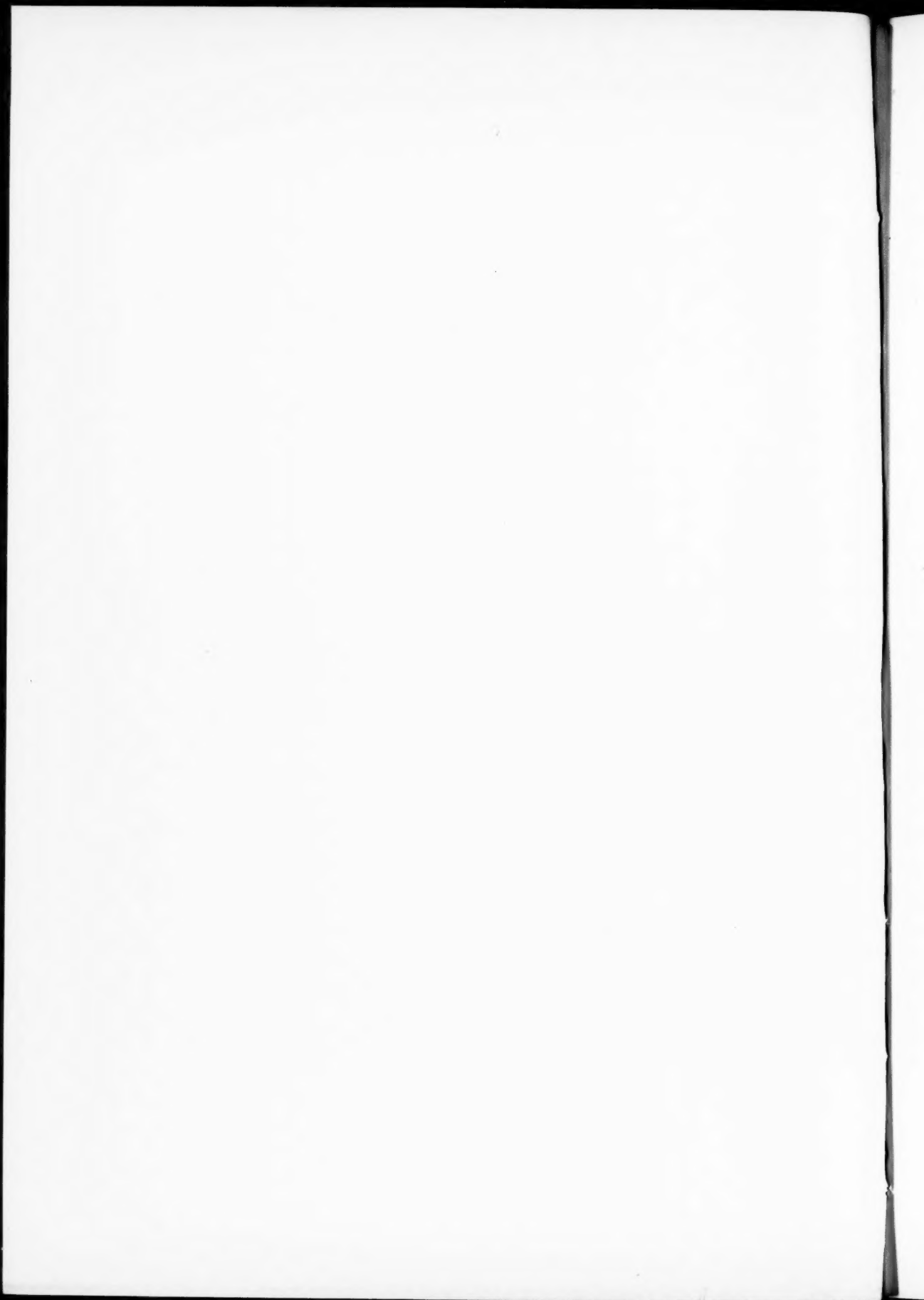
Driemaandeliks Uitgegee deur die
SUID-AFRIKAANSE BIBLIOTEEKVERENIGING
Geredigeer vanuit die W. N. N. R., Pretoria

Kan ons ons bestaan regverdig? *P. C. Coetzee*: 1 Suid-Afrikaanse Biblio-
teekvereniging Jaarlikse Konferensie, 1949: 3 Boekbesprekings: 26, 35
 Die Vaderland Biblioteek, *C. J. van Rensburg*: 31 Indrukke oor Skool-
biblioteke in Engeland, *J. R. Pauw*: 36

DEEL 18

JULIE 1950

NO. 1



SUID-AFRIKAANSE BIBLIOTHEKE

Die Offisiële Orgaan van die Suid-Afrikaanse Biblioteekvereniging

Deel 18

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No. 1

KAN ONS ONS BESTAAN REGVERDIG ?

DIE kosbaarste weelde wat 'n owerheid homself kan veroorloof, is besuiniging. Besuiniging is strydig met die beginsel van spaarsaamheid wat een van die kardinale beginsels van organisasie is. Om spaarsaam te wees, beteken om die optimum gebruik te maak van al jou kragte en bate om 'n voorgestelde nuttige resultaat te verkry. Om te besuinig, beteken om af te sien van verwagte resultate, te berus in 'n onbevredigende toestand of selfs gelate toe te sien dat 'n toestand versleg.

Ongelukkig kom daar gereeld tye terug waarin owerhede dit hulle plig ag om te besuinig. Daar is dwarsoor die wêreld tekens dat ons aan die begin van so 'n tyd staan. As so 'n besuinigingsgesindheid oor 'n owerheid vaardig raak, dan soek hy na geleenthede om dienste te besnoei. Hy vra watter van die dienste wat hy lewer werklik essensieel is en watter afgeskaf of opgeskort of ingekrimp kan word.

Verantwoordelikheid vir Biblioteekdienste is maar betreklik kort gelede deur die owerhede aanvaar. Baie owerhede het die verantwoordelikheid nog nie aanvaar nie en sommige van die wat dit wel aanvaar het, is nie tenvolle oortuig dat dit by hulle berus nie. Gedurende die ekonomiese insinking aan die begin van die dertiger jare is die Biblioteek die eerste geraak toe daar met besuiniging begin is. Gaan dit hierdie keer weer so wees ?

Waarskynlik sal dit wel die geval wees. Indien die ondersteuning wat die biblioteekbeweging van owerheidsweë geniet, bloot deur 'n sug na aansien gemotiveer is, dan sal ons in tye van nood 'n teleurstellende onkunde en gebrek aan belangstelling in wetgewende en administratiewe kringe aantref. As dit sou troos, mag ons gerus hierdie verskynsel wyte aan die kulturele agterlikheid wyte van diegene wat geroep is om te regeer.

Daarmee het ons egter nie die skuld van onself afgewentel nie. Een van ons bestaansredes is tog die bestryding van onkunde, nie net by die onderste, maar ook by die hoëre en hoogste lae van die volk, en die verhoging van die kulturele peil van die gemeenskap as geheel. Onkunde in hoër kringe is netsoseer 'n aanklag teen ons as onkunde by die massa.

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Ons het daarmee ook geen middel gevind om die owerhede te oortuig dat biblioteekdiens geen onderdeel is van die politieke brood en spele waarmee 'n gepeupel mak gehou kan word nie, maar 'n onontbeerlike instrument vir kulturele vooruitgang van 'n volk en vir die selfontplooiing van persone.

Die kernvraag wat ons, in die aangesig van 'n dreigende besuinigingsbeleid aan onself moet stel, is in hoeverre ons self oortuig is van die roeping van die biblioteek en in hoeverre ons met die middele tot ons beskikking gestreef en geslaag het om die roeping te vervul. Die toekoms van die biblioteek hang af van ons insig en ons vermoë om van ons ideale werklikhede te maak.

P. C. COETZEE

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS ADMINISTRATION

The experience of the Library of Congress in the arrangements it has made for a democratic participation of the staff in the management of its affairs will be of particular interest to all members of large library staffs. In the August 9-15, 1949, issue of the *Library of Congress Information Bulletin*, the Librarian of Congress reproduces the text of the short piece he wrote on this subject for the *Washington Times Herald*. We quote :

"In recent years the Library of Congress has increasingly broadened the staff participants in this work, i.e. determination of policy and formulation of broad programmes, until there is hardly any possibility of going further. . .

At the top of the structure is the Librarian's Conference, the policy board of the Library, which considers, in as much detail as is necessary (and sometimes I fear in more detail than seems afterwards to have been necessary) all problems deemed worthy of being discussed by a general group. These include recommendations for changes in existing policies and in basic organization procedures. Also, large administrative questions on which group wisdom is thought to have advantages over lone executive action, are brought here for thorough consideration . . .

At the bottom of the democratic structure are the Staff Discussion Groups, membership in which includes the entire personnel of the Library. Each group, ordinarily limited to 25 members, elects its own leader and meets quarterly to discuss subjects of its own choice as well as a large topic scheduled for the purpose by the Library administration. Frequently the reports and recommendations resulting from these sessions furnish the subjects for discussion at the monthly meetings of the Professional Forum, an association of the professional members of the staff who participate effectively in the discussion and the solution of many problems of Library-wide interest.

Assisting in establishing the topics for discussion in the Staff Discussion Groups and the Professional Forum, as well as in the active management of the latter, is the Staff Advisory Committee, which also serves as a channel for bringing problems and proposed solutions to the attention of the administration. Its membership includes representatives from the two unions of Library employees, the non-union members of the staff, and also members chosen by the Librarian."

SUID-AFRIKAANSE BIBLIOTEEKVERENIGING

VIERDE JAARLIKSE KONFERENSIE

Gehou te Pretoria, 7 tot 22 November 1949

HIERDIE konferensie is verreweg die grootste wat ons Vereniging nog gehou het en is bygewoon deur 165 lede.

Op Saterdagmiddag die 5de November 1949 het sommige lede geregistreer en is daarna op 'n uitstappie geneem na die laboratoria van Onderstepoort en na die „Wonderboom”.

MAANDAG, 22 NOVEMBER 1949

Op Maandag, 7 November 1949 is die registrasie van lede hervat en om 10v. m is die konferensie geopen.

OPENING

Teenwoordig: Mnr. E.A. Borland, President, en 164 ander lede. Kennisgewing van die konferensie is deur Mnr. H.M. Robinson, Sekretaris, voorgelees.

Openingstoespraak van Dr. A.J. Stals, Minister van Gesondheid, weens sy ongesteldheid deur Mnr. H. S. van der Walt, Sekretaris van Onderwys, voorgelees. Hierdie toespraak is reeds gepubliseer in *Suid-Afrikaanse Biblioteke*.¹ Mnr. van der Walt spreek sy leedwese uit dat Dr. Stals nie teenwoordig kon wees nie.

The President regretted the unavoidable absence of the Minister (Dr. Stals) and thanked Mr. van der Walt for delivering the opening speech on his behalf. The Association would try to follow up some of the suggestions made by the Minister.

The Hon. Secretary (Mr. H. M. Robinson) then read apologies for absence from : Miss O. W. McIntyre ; Mr. Peck ; Principal H. R. Raikes ; Mr. A. M. Lewin Robinson ; and Mr. C. E. Tyson.

Messages of goodwill were received from : The American Library Association; the Cape Branch ; and Miss Winifred Linderman, formerly of the United States Information Library, Cape Town.

The Vice-President of the Association (Mr. R. F. M. Immelman) at that time in the United States of America, sent the following message : “May the progress

¹S.A.B., 17(3), 109-113, Januarie 1950.

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of libraries as a whole in South Africa be the guiding principle of the conference and any resolutions taken have that in view. I shall be with you in spirit in Pretoria from the 5th November to the 9th November . . ."

MINUTES

1. The President announced that the Minutes of the 1948 Conference had been published in *South African libraries*, (16 (3-4), 89-99, Jan.-Apl. 1949).

Mr. P. Freer proposed the adoption of the Minutes of the 1948 conference held at Durban. Mr. Rooke seconded. *Agreed.*

2. Na teepouse het die President sy Voorsittersrede gelewer. ¹

MNR. ROBINSON (Ere-Sekretaris) : Mag ek namens ons almal 'n paar woorde van waardering rig aan ons Voorsitter vir sy toespraak.

MNR. M. M. STIRLING het toe sy toespraak „21 Years of the Library Movement in South Africa” ² gelewer. Mnr. S. J. Kritzinger bedank Mnr. Stirling vir sy toespraak en sê dat Mnr. Stirling met reg 'n Voortrekker genoem kan word op die gebied van biblioteke in ons land en as 'n geskiedenis van die biblioteekwese in ons land geskrywe word sy naam nie daar uitgelaat kan word nie. I would like you to write a history of the library movement in South Africa.

ANNUAL REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

PRESIDENT : The Annual Report and Statement of Accounts have been placed before you for discussion. They have been circularized in terms of the Constitution.

MNR. EHLERS, van die Kaap, merk op dat die gegewens op bladsy 2 van die Jaarverslag, n.l. wetgewing i.v.m. instelling van Provinsiale biblioteekdienste 'n verkeerde indruk skep. „Ons in die Kaap het gevra vir 'n amendement en was ondersteun deur die Transvaal. Dit is inkorrekt om te sê dat dit gedoen word op aanbeveling van die Vereniging. Dis versoek deur die Provinsies.”

DIE PRESIDENT : Meen Mnr. Ehlers dat die besluit van die Vereniging geen gewig gedra het nie ?

MISS GREEN remarked that some considerable time elapsed before conference papers were published in the journal. The President explained that during the last year the Council had tried to publish the papers of the previous conference in book form, but the cost was prohibitive. The Editor of the journal would be asked to publish as many of the addresses and articles as possible. Owing to the high cost it may be necessary to spread the articles over the whole year's publication of the journal. Miss Mews explained that she was doing her best to publish as many of the articles as possible. More she could not do.

¹ Gepublisseer in *S.A.B.*, 17(3), 114-123, Jan. 1950.

² Gepublisseer in *S.A.B.*, 17(4), 145-147, April, 1950.

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A member wanted to know whether the papers in the journal could not be distributed in a cheaper way.

MR. VARLEY : In connexion with expenditure on *South African libraries* may I ask whether there have been further developments in connexion with the suggestion that more advertisements should be obtained ? What has been done in this direction ? The PRESIDENT asked Mr. A. v. d. Bergh, the business manager of the journal, to answer the questions.

MNR. A. v. d. BERGH sê dat tot dusver nie veel gedoen is in die buiteland omtrent advertensies nie en hy sal bly wees as daar lede is wat van firmas weet in die buiteland wat bereid sou wees om advertensies te plaas.

MNR. FRIIS vra wat van sy voorstel geword het wat hy verlede jaar ingedien het i.v.m. tweetaligheid van die *Nuusbrief*.

DIE SEKRETARIS : Die saak is bespreek en daar is besluit dat artikels gepubliseer sal word in die taal waarin dit aangebied word.

Na verdere bespreking is besluit om die opskrifte en amptelike nuus sover moontlik om die beurt in Engels en in Afrikaans te publiseer.

DIE SUB-KOMITEE OOR BIBLIOTEEKTERME IN AFRIKAANS

MNR. EHLERS : Ek kla nie oor die werk wat in Pretoria gedoen word nie, maar ek sou graag sien dat die samestellers van die woordeboek in Stellenbosch en die Akademie geraadpleeg word oor die vertaalwerk en die woordelys voordat dit gepubliseer word.

MNR. COETZEE : Ons gedagte is om samewerking te verkry van die Akademie in verband met die woordelyste.

MNR. EHLERS : Die Afrikaans van die Jaarverslag is nie soos ek dit graag wil sien nie ; ek kan op verskillende foute wys, veral in die verslag van die Kaapse tak.

PRESIDENT : Will Mr. Ehlers be prepared to help us in future ?

MR. EHLERS : Yes, if you need my help.

MR. PERRY : In connexion with our professional library : I would like to ask the following questions :

1. How many books were purchased last year ?
2. Whether it would be possible to publish lists of the books in the library ?
3. Whether exchanges were made of *South African libraries* for professional journals in other countries of the world ?

MR. STIRLING : The number of books purchased last year by the Association was six. Booklists have been compiled and there are copies available for those who want them.

MR. FREER reported that exchanges were effected with a number of overseas professional journals. Exchanges were housed in the Library of Witwatersrand University, and were available for use by members.

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SECRETARY : I move the adoption of the Annual report and financial statements. *Agreed.*

The President then invited Dr. Dekker of the University of Potchefstroom to address the conference.

DR. DEKKER : Ons wil ons hartlike dank betuig aan die Vereniging vir die hulp wat aan ons verleen is tydens die brand wat feitlik ons hele biblioteek uitgewis het. Deur die *Nuusbrief* het ons baie hulp ontvang en ons wil die Vereniging baie bedank.

Adjourned for lunch.

Vertrek met busse na die Fonteine vir die noenmaal op uitnodiging van die Stadsraad van Pretoria. Die Burgemeester (Mnr. Rudd) was teenwoordig.

Namens die lede bedank MNR. VARLEY die Burgemeester en Raadslede vir hulle gasvryheid en vir die noenmaal.

MIDDAGSITTING OM 2.45 n.m.

CONSTITUTION

Memorandum and Articles of Association of South African Library Association, under Companies Act, 1926 (as amended).

Draft prepared and handed in by Mr. Nicolson.

MR. NICOLSON : The petition is for the South African Library Association to be registered under the Companies Act as a Limited Company, not for profit. We agreed 2 or 3 years ago to take this step.

PRESIDENT : The amended constitution as set before you contains no new ideas. It is merely a re-setting of our present constitution. At the Durban conference we instructed the non-European Library Committee to put forward a clause providing for the exclusion of non-Europeans as full members of the Association. The Durban conference "decided in principle to establish a separate library association for non-Europeans only". I pointed out on that occasion that any constitutional changes arising out of this expression of a new principle could not be dealt with unless it had appeared on the agenda paper, and that the branches would have to be given a chance to consider the principle before it was incorporated in the Constitution. The Branches have now considered the proposal to exclude non-Europeans. As we have discussed the question for the last 7 or 8 years, I think we must now come to finality on the matter. The question of non-Europeans has been occupying the minds of many special committees and the last committee has decided to recommend that the membership of the Association should be restricted to Europeans only. I suggest that we should now take a ballot

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which will indicate your views in respect of this particular matter. I believe that persons have already made up their minds on the subject and I can see no point in discussing the problem any further.

MR. VARLEY expressed the view of the Cape Branch on the question. He suggested that each branch should be given full autonomy in this respect.

PRESIDENT : I would not like a discussion of this particular matter ; it would be a good idea to decide this matter by ballot without discussion. Branch autonomy has already been discussed many times. Members have made up their minds by now. I suggest that the point is much too bound up with politics at present to discuss amicably.

PROFESSOR VILJOEN : Ons dink aan die gevaar wat ons voor die deur staan ; dit sal beter wees dat ons die hele kwessie vir vier jaar uitstel want dit sal vier jaar neem voordat ons tot enige ander insig sal kom, dan sal daar geen gevaar wees met UNO nie. Ons staan voor 'n baie moeilike posisie en mense wat sleg ingelig is in die saak en nie weet wat ons vir die Bantoe doen nie kan maklik die saak in 'n verkeerde lig opneem ; laat ons dan bymekaar staan en die saak uitstel vir vier jaar.

MISS ANDERSON : I think the President should allow free discussion of the subject.

PRESIDENT : Do you want a discussion or not ? Please indicate by showing your hands. (A show of hands was taken indicating that the Conference desired a discussion.)

MR. VARLEY then formally proposed the following on behalf of the Cape Branch :

In order to meet the differing views of members of the Association concerning the participation of non-European members in the Association's affairs, and in the belief that Branches should be given full autonomy in this respect, the Cape Branch proposes the following amendments to the Constitution :

CLAUSE 3. Section One to read as follows :

- (i) There shall be *four* classes of members :
 - (a) *Professional members* : All Associates and Fellows of the S.A. Library Association, or holders of recognized equivalent qualifications, or persons studying for professional examinations or persons employed as salaried members of a library staff, may be elected professional members of the Association, or *corresponding members* in terms 3 (i) (d) below. Professional members are entitled to exercise a vote and to hold office in the Association and receive all its publications.
 - (b) *Institutional Members* : As formulated in the attached Draft.
 - (c) *Contributing Members* : As formulated in the attached Draft.
 - (d) *Corresponding Members* : Any person interested in the objects of the Association may join as a corresponding member at a lower sub-

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scription rate than that fixed for (a) and (c) above. Such a member shall be entitled to receive the publications of the Association and to study for the examinations of the Association subject to the regulations drawn up in terms of Clause 36 below. He shall not be entitled to vote or hold office in the Association and shall only be entitled to attend meetings of the Branch to which he may be attached subject to the regulations of that Branch.

- (ii) These membership regulations only apply to the affairs of the central governing body of the Association, and Branches may make their own internal regulations concerning the status of institutional, contributing or *corresponding members*.

CLAUSE 5: Insert after "Membership" the words "Professional, institutional, contributing or *corresponding members*".

I explained to the Secretary that it was not a form of amendment of the original constitution. The amendment appears on pages 14 and 15 and I would like to make one more addition; it is merely a verbal amendment: line 2, page 15; see the third line after the word "fetched"; insert "at the discretion of the Branch concerned". The Cape Branch has referred the question to all its members. We were very anxious to obtain the opinion of all; we discussed it among ourselves and then circulated the proposed amendment to all members of the Branch in the country towns, universities, etc. with the exception of non-European members. Many expressions of opinion were received. It was generally felt that a certain condition might apply to one part of the country and not to another so far as the native population was concerned. We then agreed that it would be wise for each Branch to decide for itself whether non-Europeans should be allowed Branch membership. We have also gone to great trouble to consult the legal and medical professions, the first of which replied that it does make a discrimination.

MNR. P. C. COETZEE: Op die konferensie te Durban verlede jaar is beginsel besluit „that non-Europeans should have a separate library association and not be members of the S.A. Library Association”.

PRESIDENT: That was only an expression of opinion, not an amendment to the constitution.

MR. KRITZINGER: I move that in the Memorandum of the Association, paragraph 3(a) the word "European" be inserted before the word "persons". I do it for the following reasons: In the proposed Articles of Association, page 4, clause 3 it is stated that—"membership of the Association shall be restricted to Europeans". . . the Conference in 1948 decided on separate associations for non-Europeans and the deletion of the word "European" is not in the spirit of the Constitution. Once we adopt this new constitution the Memorandum of Association may only be amended by Order of Court, but the articles may be amended

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by the majority of votes at a Conference. Nothing should be placed in the articles which is not covered by the memorandum.

MR. H. M. ROBINSON : Mr. Kritzinger proposes to amend the Constitution according to Mr. Nicolson's draft. I would like to second that and in addition point out that even with separate associations for non-Europeans the S.A. Library Association could still assist non-European library workers. I mention only a few of these services, viz :

1. Provision of special educational facilities for non-European Library workers. (See draft Constitution page 11, clause q.)
2. Provision of examination facilities for non-Europeans and also to issue certificates and diplomas to non-European library workers.
3. All correspondence courses should be placed at the disposal of non-Europeans, if possible, at reduced rates.
4. All publications of the Association be placed at the disposal of non-Europeans, if possible, at reduced rates.
5. All papers read before branch meetings which may interest non-European library workers, can be repeated to non-European meetings.
6. Help can be given to obtain tutors for non-European library workers, and to assist in the organization of vacation and/or short courses for non-European library workers.
7. Speakers could be provided for meetings of those interested in non-European library matters.
8. Such information, advice and assistance as members of the S.A.L.A. may be able to offer may be given with the permission of the non-European library movement.

MR. D. L. EHLERS : Why do we want a separate non-European Association if we can do all those things for them ?

MR. I. ISAACSON (Southern Transvaal Branch) : I will move on behalf of the Southern Transvaal that the words "shall be restricted to Europeans" be deleted. The Southern Transvaal Branch discussed this very fully and decided to propose that the clause be deleted.

MISS M. E. GREEN : We are against the formation of a separate association for non-Europeans in the Cape.

MRS. M. A. PETERS : I submit that these ideas of separation are not worthy of our association. This policy of excluding non-Europeans is not ideal and before we take further steps we should discuss it fully. In the United States they have the same difficulty in regard to the Negro ; the United States is not in favour of segregation. From statistics we know that non-European libraries are progressing and this Association can assist them greatly. Europeans can do much to assist

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non-Europeans. My view is that non-Europeans cannot fend for themselves, they look to Europeans to help them.

PROFESSOR F. R. TOMLINSON : The conditions in the United States are quite different to the conditions here. The main point is that if we are to adopt the suggestions of the three branches, viz. Natal, Cape Town and Southern Transvaal, we are going to break this strong body. If it is decided that non-Europeans are to continue as members, I shall propose to the University of Pretoria that we should break away from the South African Library Association. If this change takes place, I tell you, you are going to start a new library association and that would be a very fatal thing. You should appeal to the three branches to think well before they put the motions through.

MISS B. LEVY : I do not think we should discuss the matter in the spirit as put forward by Professor Tomlinson ; I do not think that is the right basis, we must do what is right.

MRS. RHODES-HARRISON : Many years ago we started this Association for the whole of the population of South Africa.

MR. G. H. FRANZ : Speaking about the Transvaal I think it is gratifying to see the expansion of our Transvaal non-European Library. We can use the efforts of the people who are building up the non-European libraries. I think at this stage it would be dangerous to urge this question too much. I must make it clear that there is friendship between the two sections. The Bantu receive a lot of technical advice from Europeans and accept it gratefully. I think we must encourage all interested in the non-European library movement, and after four years come back to the question again. As an Inspector of non-European schools, I think this is not the right time to take a decision. I would like to suggest that we wait and watch developments. I move that we postpone any decision for four years.

DR. G. W. EYBERS : Does the Association invite non-Europeans to its functions ? It is a question that we will have to decide sooner or later.

PROFESSOR VILJOEN : We must do our very best for the Bantu, but I ask that you leave this matter in abeyance for four years.

BY A MEMBER : What do you want to postpone for four years ?

PRESIDENT : The suggestion is that we must leave the question of preventing non-Europeans from joining the Association over for four years.

MR. KENNEDY : I second that suggestion.

PROFESSOR VILJOEN : That is not my suggestion. I understood the suggestion to be that we would not admit non-Europeans for four years.

PRESIDENT : The present Constitution allows non-Europeans to join the Association. Does Professor Viljoen want to retain the present position for four years ?

PROFESSOR VILJOEN : No. I withdraw my motion.

MR. KENNEDY : I was the seconder. I now propose that the question of the exclusion of non-Europeans be held over for four years.

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The proposal by Mr. Kennedy that the question of the exclusion of non-Europeans be left over for four years was then put to the vote. There were 102 votes for the proposal and 31 votes against it.

PRESIDENT: The motion is carried.

MR. P. C. COETZEE: I move that the rest of the Constitution stands over for four years.

A vote was then taken. 71 persons voted for the above proposal and 62 against it.

PRESIDENT: The motion is carried. That means that we continue under our present Constitution for the next four years.

The Conference adjourned at 4.15 p.m.

The delegates then visited the University of Pretoria at the invitation of the Rector.

AANDSITTING, MAANDAG, 7 NOVEMBER 1945 om 8 n.m.

DIE PRESIDENT maak verskoning dat die Minister van Onderwys, Kuns en Wetenskap, Advokaat C. R. Swart, nie teenwoordig kan wees nie weens ongesteldheid.

THE PRESIDENT explained that the Controller of Imports had announced that the Government was prepared to allow public libraries and other properly constituted libraries, excepting commercial libraries, to import books from sterling areas without permits during the period January to June 1950. For non-sterling imports libraries will be supplied with permits to the value of 80 per cent of their permits for the previous 6 months from non-sterling countries.

MR. J. W. PERRY read a paper on the "The United Nations Library, Lake Success".¹

MEJ. G. STANGER lees haar referaat oor „International Libraries and United States Information Libraries" voor.

PROFESSOR J. P. DUMINY, Hoof, Pretoriase Tegniese Kollege, lewer sy referaat oor „South Africa and Unesco".²

DIE PRESIDENT bedank Prof. Duminy vir sy toespraak.

MR. D. H. VARLEY delivered a paper on "International Library Policy".³

¹ Gepubliseer in *S.A.B.*, 17(4), 148-155, April, 1950.

² Gepubliseer in *S.A.B.*, 17(4), 156-159, April, 1950.

³ Gepubliseer in *S.A.B.*, 17(4), 160-164, April, 1950.

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MISS P.M. SPEIGHT proposed a vote of thanks to the four speakers.

The President announced that UNESCO book coupons to the value of 20,000 dollars were available to the libraries of South Africa. Libraries requiring coupons should apply to Dr. van Zyl at the Union Education Department.

THE PRESIDENT thanked Mr. P. C. Coetzee for showing members the University Library on Monday afternoon, and for the tea served.

Conference adjourned at 10.20 p.m.

TUESDAY, 8th NOVEMBER, 1949

Die Konferensie is verdeel in tafelrondes en tegniese besprekingsgroepe.

9.00-

10.30 v.m. : 1. *Groepverdeling vir tegniese samesprekings oor:*

- (a) Konstruksie van Reisende Biblioteke, onder leiding van Mnr. Wallis, Ingenieur, Transvaalse Provinsiale Administrasie.
- (b) Mikrofilm en ander bibliografiese ontwikkelings, onder leiding van Mnre. P. Freer en F. H. Rooke.
- (c) Katalogiseringsprobleme, onder leiding van Mnr. P. C. Coetzee.

11.00 v.m.-

12.30 n.m. : 2. *Groepverdeling vir tegniese besprekings oor:*

- (a) Probleme by die Boekproduksie in Suid-Afrika, onder leiding van Mnr. S. Marais, Bestuurder van Afrikaanse Pers-Boekhandel.
- (b) Biblioteek-uitbreiding en onderwys vir volwassenes, onder leiding van Mev. A. Dommissie.
- (c) Finansies en wetgewing in verband met Openbare Biblioteke onder leiding van Mnr. E. A. Borland.

2.15-

4.00 n.m.

3. *Tafelrondes vir Bibliotekarisse van:*

- (a) Klein Openbare Biblioteke, onder leiding van Mej. D. M. Scott en Mev. M. Dix.
- (b) Spesiale Biblioteke, onder leiding van Mej. Hazel Mews.
- (c) Plattelandse Biblioteke, onder leiding van Dr. S. H. Pellissier
- (d) Skool-en Kinderbiblioteke, onder leiding van Mev. E. C. de Wet.
- (e) Nie-blanke Biblioteke, onder leiding van Mev. M. A. Peters.

S.A. BIBLIOTEEKVERENIGING VIERDE JAARLIKSE KONFERENSIE

WEDNESDAY, 9th NOVEMBER, 1949

THE PRESIDENT : I have asked Dr. A. van Zyl of the Union Education Department to come and explain to us the details of the UNESCO book-coupon system.

DR. A. J. VAN ZYL : The UNESCO book-coupon system is a very simple one. UNESCO has set aside 22,000 dollars for our use in effecting oversea purchases in pounds or French francs. We may buy books from the United States and pay for them with the coupons.

The President thanked Dr. van Zyl for the information and said that as far as sterling countries were concerned South Africa has no difficulty at present ; we may buy all the books we need from the sterling areas for the first six months of 1950 without a permit ; from non-sterling countries we are being allowed 80 per cent of our last year's permits.

Mr. Perry asked where the book coupons could be obtained. Dr. van Zyl stated that somebody would have to be appointed to distribute these coupons fairly to the various libraries of the country.

Mnr. Coetzee wil weet of heurdie koeponstelsel ook in Duitsland in werking is. Dr. van Zyl verduidelik dat die sisteem in verskillende lande oorsee in werking is, maar hy weet nie of Duitsland daaronder val nie.

Op 'n verdere vraag van Mnr. Coetzee antwoord Dr. van Zyl dat hy glo nie dat UNESCO enige beswaar sal maak om aan individue boeke te verskaf nie.

Dr. van Zyl stated that either the Library Association or the Education Department could be appointed to control the issue of coupons ; but that UNESCO preferred to deal with Governments.

Mr. Varley suggested that the Union Education Department be approached to undertake the work. Dr. van Zyl replied that he would discuss the matter with the Education Department ; he believed that UNESCO would prefer to deal with the Education Department rather than with individual libraries.

Mr. Coetzee proposed that the principle of asking the Union Education Department to control the distribution be accepted by the conference. *Agreed.*

PRESIDENT : I have pleasure in asking Miss Percival to tell us about the Inter-library Loan Service of the State Library.

MISS L. PERCIVAL read an address on "The National Lending Library Service of the State Library, Pretoria".

PRESIDENT : I have pleasure in asking Mr. D. Niven, Librarian of the Bulawayo Public Library, to tell us about library development in Central Africa.

MR. NIVEN : I will give you a brief survey of the three territories that I represent. The total population of the three territories is 150,000. Southern Rhodesia has a population of 16,000 Europeans and they are scattered all over

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the country. 472,000 square miles have to be covered, which is about four times as much as the Transvaal.

All of the libraries of Southern Rhodesia receive Government subsidies. At Umbobo, which is only a small place with a population of 200 Europeans, the onus fell on me to find the money for a library. After great trouble the library was built. When representatives of the Carnegie Corporation managed to come to Southern Rhodesia I took them round. I expected them to help us financially, but it took 10 years of correspondence between Rhodesia and the Carnegie Corporation before the matter came to a conclusion. In 1939 the Carnegie Corporation promised us some help; then the war broke out and it took another 4 years to obtain the necessary funds.

We are deeply indebted to the universities and libraries of the Union for the books they allow us to borrow through the Inter-library Loan System. We also distribute books to Europeans, Natives and Indians in Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland. The Government gives grants to the libraries and provides the National Free Library Service with £1,500 a year. The Rhodesian Library grants are very good. To small libraries £2 is given for every £1 collected locally. It is a good thing that people should be encouraged to help themselves.

PRESIDENT: The papers read by Miss Percival and Mr. Niven are now open for discussion.

MISS SPEIGHT: Are State Library books lent to libraries in Portuguese East Africa?

MISS PERCIVAL: We would like to lend them books.

MISS MEWS: The Portuguese would like to come into the inter-library loan scheme.

MR. VARLEY: What facilities are there for non-Europeans to obtain books?

MISS PERCIVAL: The Education Department has a non-European Section and applications are conducted through the Carnegie non-European Library.

MISS M. E. GREEN proposed a vote of thanks to Miss Percival for the information she had supplied.

MR. P. C. COETZEE thanked Mr. Niven for the splendid work that he is doing in Central Africa to stimulate an interest in library development.

PRESIDENT: We shall now consider the proposals brought forward from Technical and Round Table Discussion Groups. I must explain about these proposals. According to our constitution eight weeks' notice must be given to the Secretary of any proposal on which the Conference is asked to take a resolution; any contentious proposal should be referred to the Branches concerned or the Association as a whole before a decision on it is taken by a Conference; for instance—a member may not present at this stage any amendment of the constitution or anything else that is binding upon the Association. I will now ask the leaders of the Discussion Groups to present their proposals:

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SECTION ON MICROFILM AND OTHER BIBLIOGRAPHIC DEVELOPMENTS,
LED BY MESSRS. P. FREER AND F. H. ROOKE

Proposal 1, (by Dr. Spohr, read by Mr. Rooke):

It is suggested that the journal *South African libraries* publish the findings of the Cape Town University Library enquiry into the question of photographic services rendered by libraries and other bibliographical institutions in South Africa.

It is further suggested that the findings be incorporated in a Directory consisting of an alphabetical list of the names of institutions and the services offered by them, with the following appendices :

- (a) A list of the libraries and institutions from which no reply was received to the questionnaire sent round.
- (b) List of libraries and institutions giving a nil return.
- (c) Alphabetical list of towns and cities, with each of its institutions.

PRESIDENT : I would like to refer the matter to the Editor of *S.A. libraries* for any action she may be able to take.

Proposal 2 (by Miss Green):

Regarding the danger of infringement of copyright laws, it is suggested that libraries offering photostatic and other photographic services be safeguarded from the responsibility of infringing copyright laws in the following manner : That a standardized copyright declaration form be adopted by all libraries participating in Inter-library loan and photostat services, and that any person wishing the library he uses to procure for him a photostat copy of any material in another library, sign a copy of the standardized copyright declaration form, which is then to accompany the request sent up to the library he uses, to the library supplying the photostat material.

PRESIDENT : I think this resolution may be referred to Council. *Agreed.*

Proposal 3, (by Mr. Perry):

Regarding the microfilming of theses, it is suggested that a scheme be put into operation whereby a university would send its theses to a photographic centre which would photograph them on microfilm, and keep a master negative in its archives. These archives would grow to be a complete index of theses in the country and if any library should wish to borrow a thesis, a microfilm copy might be sent.

PRESIDENT : May we refer this to the Council? *Agreed.*

Proposal 4, (by Mr. Varley):

It is proposed :

- (a) That the Association request Dr. H. Coblans to act as its representative

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on the proposed UNESCO Advisory Committee of Experts on Problems of National Bibliographical Control.

PRESIDENT : The matter should be referred to Council. *Agreed.*

(b) That a standing bibliographical sub-committee be appointed.

(i) to maintain liaison with the UNESCO Advisory Committee of experts ;

(ii) to examine means by which present gaps in South African bibliographical equipment may be filled and to make recommendations thereon ;

(iii) to investigate the use of microfilm in South African bibliographical projects.

(c) That in the event of the appointment of this Committee, application be made to UNESCO for funds to meet secretarial expenses.

PRESIDENT : May we refer these proposals to Council? *Agreed.*

TEGNIËSE BESPREKINGSGROEP i/s KATALOGISERINGSPROBLEME,
GELEI DEUR MNR. P. C. COETZEE

Voorstel 5:

Dat daar met die oog op volksopvoeding meer gebruik gemaak word van geannoteerde lektuurlyste. (Waardering word uitgespreek vir die waardevolle werk wat in die rigting deur die Transvaalse Provinsiale Biblioteke verrig word). *Aangeneem.*

Voorstel 6:

Dat indien daar 'n Verenigingsjaarboek of handboek uitgegee word, daarin ruimte afgestaan sal word vir artikels oor katalogiseringsprobleme.

PRESIDENT : Sal ons hierdie voorstel na die Raad verwys? *Aangeneem.*

Voorstel 7:

Dat ruimte in *Suid-Afrikaanse biblioteke* aan artikels oor katalogiseerprobleme afgestaan word.

PRESIDENT : Sal ons dit na die Redaktrise verwys? *Aangeneem.*

Voorstel 8:

Dat die Provinsiale Plattelandse Biblioteekorganisasies, waar hulle 'n stelsel van sentrale katalogisering invoer vir streek- en ander biblioteke, oorweeg om kataloguskaarte vir dorpe wat nie onder die skema val nie, teen vergoeding beskikbaar te stel. *Aangeneem.*

Voorstel 9:

Die besprekingsgroepe oor katalogiseringsprobleme 'n permanente instelling op konferensies moet word en dat daar op elke konferensie 'n komitee benoem

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word om kontinuïteit te bewaar en probleme vir bespreking voor te berei. As komitee tot by die volgende konferensie word aanbeveel:

- (i) Mnr. Lewin Robinson, Kaapstad.
- (ii) Mej. Anderson, Johannesburg.
- (iii) Mnr. Isaacson, Johannesburg. *Aangeneem.*

SECTION ON BOOK-PRODUCTION PROBLEMS IN SOUTH AFRICA, LED BY MR. S. MARAIS

Voorstel 10 :

- (a) Dat die Konferensie die aandag van bibliotekarisse vestig op die pas gestigte blad *Die Uitgewer*, amptelike orgaan van die Uitgewersvereniging onder redaksie van Mnr. Jan van Schaik, Librigebou, Pretoria. Dat bibliotekarisse hierdie uitgawe ondersteun deur intekening sowel as deur artikels by te dra.
- (b) Dat die S.A.B.V. se eise t.o.v. die tegniese versorging (d.w.s. band, lettersoort, papier, ens.) van boeke by wyse van 'n artikel duidelik geformuleer word vir opname in *Die Uitgewer* sodat die uitgewers almal geleentheid het om daarvan kennis te neem.
- (c) Dat bibliotekarisse versoek word om hulle indrukke i.v.m. leesstof waarvoor daar 'n konkrete behoefte bestaan, en waarin daar tans nie behoorlik voorsien word nie, in die vorm van kort artikels op te stel vir publikasie in *Die Uitgewer*.
- (d) Dat die kontak wat tans tussen die S.A.B.V. en die Uitgewersvereniging geskep is, behou bly deur:
 - (i) Wedersyds persone af te vaardig wat jaarvergaderings en konferensies bywoon.
 - (ii) By die volgende konferensies van die S.A.B.V. tegniese besprekings oor boekproduksieprobleme te hou.
- (e) Die instelling van 'n Nasionale Boekraad waarin die Uitgewersvereniging, die S.A.B.V., die Departement van Onderwys, Kuns en Wetenskappe en ander belanghebbende liggame verteenwoordig sal wees en wat in hoofsaak die volgende funksies sal hê:
 - (i) Propaganda te maak vir die Suid-Afrikaanse boek.
 - (ii) Middele te beraam vir die publikasie van verdienstelike wetenskaplike en populêr wetenskaplike werke en werke van besonder hoë letterkundige waarde wat onder huidige omstandighede nie winsgewend gepubliseer kan word nie. (Ter verduideliking van die laaste punt kan hier bygevoeg word dat die Besprekingsgroep in

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gedagte het dat verskillende biblioteke en biblioteekorganisasies gesamentlik 'n waarborg gee om sekere gedeelte van die oplaag van so'n boek te neem, indien dit gepubliseer word).

PRESIDENT : I suggest that all these proposals be referred to Council. *Agreed.*

SECTION ON LIBRARY EXTENSION AND ADULT EDUCATION, LED BY MRS. A. DOMMISSE

Proposal 11:

This group recommends that the librarian of the public library be co-opted on all local adult education committees as well as on co-ordinating committees, and that the Council of S.A.L.A. be represented on the Council of Adult Education, (dealt with at the 1948 conference).

PRESIDENT : I propose that we refer the matter to Council for action. *Agreed.*

Proposal 12:

This group recommends that the Union Education Department and Provincial Councils be urged to place their buildings at the disposal of the public for Adult Education purposes when not in use.

PRESIDENT : I think we should refer the matter to the Education Department, or would you like to refer it to the Council? *Agreed* to refer it to the Education Department direct.

Proposal 13:

This group is of the opinion that public library buildings be so designed that at least one room can be adapted for Adult Education purposes, and recommends that a Library Planning Advisory Committee be appointed to which librarians can apply for advice.

PRESIDENT : Perhaps we could ask Council to give Publicity to these suggestions? *Agreed.*

Proposal 14:

This group recommends that readers' advisers be available in all libraries for Adult Education purposes.

PRESIDENT : Should we refer this resolution to Council for further action? *Agreed.*

Proposal 15:

In order that there would be equality of Adult Education opportunities in libraries, this group recommends that all public libraries should be free.

PRESIDENT : I think that goes without saying. *All agreed.*

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SECTION ON PUBLIC LIBRARY FINANCE AND LEGISLATION,

LED BY MR. E. A. BORLAND

Proposal 16:

That the conference take a resolution to the effect that all Provincial Authorities be asked to appoint their library staffs on a permanent basis. *All agreed.*

Proposal 17:

This Group recommends that the conference ask the Council to appoint a sub-committee to prepare a memorandum on standards of library service and that such memorandum be discussed at the next conference. *Agreed* and referred to Council.

SMALL PUBLIC LIBRARIES ROUND TABLE,

LED BY MISS D. M. SCOTT AND MRS. M. DIX

Proposal 18:

That a sub-committee be appointed to draw up a standard form of statistics for libraries in South Africa. *Agreed* to refer to Council.

SPECIAL LIBRARIES SECTION,

LED BY MISS HAZEL MEWS

Proposal 19:

That the South African Association of Journalists should ask *The Star*, the *Cape Times*, *Die Burger*, *Die Transvaler* and other leading newspapers to prepare indexes and make them available in published form.

A MEMBER : I do not think that would produce any good result.

PRESIDENT : What would you suggest as an alternative ?

MR. VARLEY : The printers themselves.

MR. PERRY : I suggest that the newspapers be approached.

After discussion it was agreed that the Association of Journalists be approached.

Proposal 20:

That an article be written which shall aim at bringing to the attention of industrial concerns the advantages which can be expected to follow from the establishment of a well-conducted library under the charge of a properly qualified librarian. That the article should deal *inter alia* with the following points :

- (a) The duties which can be performed by a qualified librarian ;
- (b) the salary scales applicable to qualified librarians ;
- (c) the fact that the expense involved is trifling compared with the returns which would follow ; and

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- (d) that the article should be submitted for publication in short form to a number of periodicals circulating amongst industrialists and business men and in a more expanded form to the National Development Corporation.

PRESIDENT : I think we should refer this to the Council. *Agreed.*

BESPREKINGSGROEP OOR PLATTELANDSE BIBLIOTEKE, ONDER LEIDING VAN DR. S. H. PELLISSIER

Voorstel 21:

Die kongres van die S.A.B.V. wens die verskillende Provinsiale Administrasies geluk te wens met die vordering wat reeds gedoen is op die gebied van die Platte-landse Biblioteekdienste en spreek die hoop uit dat die Provinsies en ander gebiede wat nog nie so'n diens ingestel het nie, spoedig sal volg. *Aangeneem.*

Voorstel 22:

Dat die Provinsiale Administrasies versoek word om toe te sien dat die nodige ko-ordinasie van die biblioteekwerk van die provinsie bewerkstellig word ten einde oorvleueling en on ekonomiese besteding van geld te voorkom. *Aangeneem.*

BESPREKINGSGROEP OOR SKOOL- EN KINDERBIBLIOTEKE, ONDER LEIDING VAN MEV. E. C. DE WET

Voorstel 23:

Die groep beveel aan dat daar 'n spesiale kwalifikasie moet wees vir persone wat biblioteekwerk met skoolkinders doen, d.w.s. vir onderwysers sowel as vir belangstellende bibliotekarisse. Die leerplan moet deur 'n komitee van onderwyser-bibliotekarisse in oorleg met die Suid-Afrikaanse Biblioteekvereniging raad opgestel word. So 'n leerplan sal die gespesialiseerde gebied van die kind in sy opvoeding betree en sal ook die leerplan vir voorgename kursusse aan die Normaalkolleges uitmaak. Hierdie kwalifikasie kan genoem word die Sertifikaat in Skoolbiblioteekwese van die S.A.B.V.

Voorstel 24:

Dat almal wat te doen het met die opleiding van onderwysers en aspirantonderwysers in biblioteekwese, sal organiseer en bymekaar kom met die doel om standaarde te stel en die werk te ko-ordineer.

PRESIDENT : I think it is a matter for the Education Committee to investigate.

MR. COETZEE : Stellenbosch, Potchefstroom, and Pretoria Universities give courses in Librarianship to student teachers. I support the suggestion but think

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it would be wrong to interfere with the present facilities offered by universities.

MRS. DE WET : In addition to that we favour additional qualifications.

PRESIDENT : I think the best would be to refer proposal 24 to the Education Committee, with the request that a sub-committee be appointed to investigate the whole matter. *Agreed.*

NON-EUROPEAN LIBRARY SERVICES ROUND TABLE,
LED BY MRS. M. A. PETERS

Proposal 25:

That Provincial library committees of the A.S.L.A. be formed to investigate matters concerning non-European libraries.

PRESIDENT : Should we refer this to the Council? *Agreed.*

Proposal 26:

That these committees report to the Council of the S.A.L.A. which would use the information so obtained in approaching the Union Education Department with the view to the formation of a central directive on non-European libraries, on which the S.A.L.A. would be represented, and that this central directive advise regional bodies.

PRESIDENT : This proposal should be referred to Council. *Agreed.*

Proposal 27:

That the S.A.L.A. continue to provide :

- (a) by means of a standing sub-committee of the Education Committee, educational facilities and other assistance for non-Europeans engaged in, or preparing for, library work, and further, that the S.A.L.A. render the following services to non-Europeans :
- (b) to permit such non-Europeans to enter for the examinations of the S.A.L.A. and to award to them, subject to the conditions laid down by the constitution, certificates and diplomas ;
- (c) to reduce the examination fees and correspondence tuition fees payable by non-Europeans ;
- (d) to supply all publications of the Association to non-Europeans at reduced prices ;
- (e) to repeat before an audience of non-Europeans who may be interested all important papers read before branch meetings ;
- (f) that the S.A.L.A. provide lectures for and give assistance in the organization of vacation or short courses for non-European librarians ;
- (g) to provide speakers at meetings of non-Europeans interested in the library movement ;

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- (h) to make representations to the authorities for the introduction and improvement of library facilities for non-Europeans ;
- (i) to place at the disposal of the non-European library movement, such information and technical advice as members of the S.A.L.A. may be in a position to supply. *Agreed* to refer these proposals to Council.

Proposal 28:

That the S.A.L.A. ask all public authorities employing non-Europeans in library work to designate them as librarians, assistant librarians, or library assistants as the case may be, and that they appoint them on the same scales of pay as they would have as teachers possessing equivalent qualifications. *Agreed.*

PRESIDENT : Educational matters arising out of these resolutions should be referred to the Education Committee :

Proposals 27 (c) and (d) should be referred to the Council ; 27 (e) and (g) should be referred to the different branches. Agreed.

PRESIDENT : We now have to consider a proposal from the Cape Branch (moved by Mr. Ehlers) :

"That this conference of the S.A.L.A. request the Public Service Commission, the Department of Education, Arts and Science and the Provincial Administrations to revise the existing scales of librarians and library assistants classes A and B in the Public Service and recommends that the following salary scales be adopted :

<i>Designation</i>	<i>Salary Scale</i>	<i>Minimum Qualification</i>
Librarian (male or female)	£400 x 25-£600	S.A.L.A. Diploma or recognized equivalent.
Library Assistant Class A.	£300 x 25-£500	Intermediate examination of S.A.L.A. or recognized equivalent.
Library Assistant Class B.	£240 x 20-£300	Elementary examination of S.A.L.A. or recognized equivalent.

Further, that a concession equivalent to at least two annual increments be given to persons in possession of a recognized Batchelor's Degree."

Proposal 29:

MISS GREEN : Since we requested that the motion be placed on the agenda, we have found that more embracing recommendations have been made by other interested bodies. With permission of the conference we wish to withdraw the above and substitute the following motion :

"That the conference respectfully requests the Public Service Commission to bring the salary scales of librarians in the public Service in line with those of similar groups, such as architects and translators, and in particular to raise

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the commencing salaries of librarians to such a level that suitably qualified persons will be attracted to the service."

MR. EHLERS withdrew the motion.

MISS GREEN then moved proposal 29, seconded by Mr. Ehlers. After discussions the proposal was agreed to.

MR. S. J. KRITZINGER : I suggest that a copy be sent to the Public Service Commission and the Provincial Administrations. *Agreed.*

Proposal 30:

MRS. RHODES-HARRISON : I wish to propose :

"That all library committees be urged to grant special leave to delegates attending the conference of the S.A.L.A. and to pay the expenses of such delegates."

PRESIDENT : I think that we are all agreed that the expenses of delegates should be paid by employing authorities. We should ask the Council to circularize all authorities and library authorities. *Agreed.*

PRESIDENT : I think our group discussions were very successful. I would like you to say whether we should have group discussions at future conferences.

MRS. DE WET : I propose that at future conferences we have these group discussions. *Agreed.*

PRESIDENT : We have had an invitation from Rhodes University, Grahamstown, to have our next conference there.

MR. VARLEY : I support the suggestion. I move that the Conference be held in Grahamstown in 1950.

MISS SPEIGHT : I second the proposal.

PRESIDENT : Agreed that the 1950 conference be held in Grahamstown, and that we thank the Rhodes University for its kind invitation.

After the Secretary had explained the arrangements for the afternoon, i.e. visits to the different libraries and arrangements for the next day, when members would visit the Johannesburg Public Library, the President invited Councillor Matthews of Johannesburg to propose various votes of thanks :

CR. MATTHEWS :

On behalf of this Conference of the S.A. Library Association I would like to propose votes of thanks to :

1. The Hon. the Minister of Health, Dr. A. J. Stals, for sending his opening speech to be read as he could not be present ; Mr. H. S. van der Walt, Secretary for Education, for representing Dr. Stals and reading the opening speech.
2. The Rector and Registrar, the Extra-mural Registrar and the Librarian of the University of Pretoria for providing the Conference Hall and classrooms for the Conference, and for a grant for tea ; also for allowing us to visit the

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University of Pretoria ; the Extra-Mural S.R.C. of the University of Pretoria for the use of their tea-room.

3. The Mayor and City Council of Pretoria for the civic luncheon and for providing municipal buses for transport of the delegates on various occasions without charge.
4. The Pretoria Publicity Association for publicity material.
5. The Director of Veterinary Services and Librarian of Onderstepoort for receiving the delegates at Onderstepoort. The Director of S.A. Mint, The President and the Head of the Information Section of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, The Director and Librarian of the Bureau of Standards, The Librarians of the State Library and Union Education Library, The Librarians of the Central Agricultural Library and Library of the Dept. of External Affairs, The Transvaal Library Organizer, for allowing delegates to visit their libraries.
6. All the speakers and the leaders of the discussion groups and the round table conferences.
7. Mr. and Mrs. C. Christie for the social gathering at their residence.
8. Mr. and Mrs. Stirling for receiving the delegates at their residence for the social gathering.
9. The President, Hon. Secretary and members of the Executive Committee for the social gathering.
10. The Chairman (Mr. S. J. Kritzinger) the Hon. Secretary (Mrs. M. T. Reitz) and members of the Committee of the Northern Transvaal Branch for their untiring efforts in connexion with the arrangements for the Conference.
11. The Conference Sub-Committees of the Northern Transvaal Branch :
 - (i) *Tea Committee*: Miss Sybil Nicholson, Mrs. J. Reinecke ; and the Misses Anne Hadley, Joan Williams and Anne Egan.
 - (ii) *Accommodation Committee*: Mrs M. W. Rautenbach and Mr. H. J. Aschenborn.
 - (iii) *Transport*: Mr. Th. Friis.
 - (iv) *Publicity Committee*: Mr. S. J. Kritzinger, Miss Hazel Mews and Dr. A. M. T. Meyer.
 - (v) *N. Transvaal Junior Section Committee*: For arranging the programme on Tuesday night.
 - (vi) *Mr. Steynberg* for arranging the visits to Pretoria libraries on Wednesday afternoon.
 - (vii) *The Action Committee*: Mrs. H. J. M. Retief, Mrs. M. Rautenbach, and the Misses G. Williamson, E. Jorgenson, C. M. Paterson and Mrs. P. M. Malherbe.

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- (viii) *The Registration Clerk*, Miss M. E. Fourie and *Treasurer*, Mrs. Retief.
- (ix) *Master of Ceremonies*, Mr. A. J. van den Bergh and *Liaison Officer*, Mrs. M. T. Reitz.

- 12. *Mr. M. G. Nicolson* for all the work he did in preparing the Draft Memorandum and Articles of Association.
- 13. The City Council and the City Librarian of Johannesburg for inviting the Conference to visit the Johannesburg libraries on Thursday.
- 14. The 165 members who registered.
- 15. To the President and the Hon. Secretary for their able efforts during the past year and for making this conference a success.

Votes of thanks agreed to.

PRESIDENT : I now declare the conference to be ended.

U.S. NATIONAL UNION CATALOGUE

In July of last year the Union Catalogue, housed at the Library of Congress, contained some 16,500,000 cards. An interesting report on the future of this mighty catalogue, including plans for reproduction, appeared as an appendix to the Library of Congress *Information bulletin*, August 9-15, 1949.

EXCHANGE JOURNALS

Readers are reminded that the journals received in exchange for *South African libraries* form part of the South African Library Association's professional library and are housed in the Library of the University of the Witwatersrand.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF CANADA

Plans for a proposed National Library of Canada were presented by the Canadian Library Association (Association Canadienne des Bibliothèques) to the Canadian Royal Commission on National Development in the Arts, Letters and Sciences last August. It was proposed that the National Library should be centrally located in Ottawa, within easy access of the Library of Parliament, the Archives of Canada, and the central group of departmental buildings. We quote the conclusion of the Canadian Library Association report as given in the Library of Congress *Information Bulletin* of August 23-29, 1949 :

"The National Library's primary function will be to collect books that have been written by Canadians, or that, though written by non-Canadians, are of appreciable significance to Canadians. It should regard these publications and other media of information as vital to the diffusion of knowledge, the well-being of Canadian life, and as tools to be put in use for Canadian citizens. Operating to a large extent in co-operation with provincial and local libraries, the National Library should make its resources available to all government services, business men, workers, teachers, scholars, in short, to all the people of Canada."

BOEKBESPREKINGS

RANGANATHAN, S. R. *Library needs of renascent India*. Presidential address at the Eighth All-India library conference, 20-22 Jan., 1949, Nagpur. Delhi, University press, 1949. 33p.

Dr. Ranganathan's presidential address touched nearly every aspect of library work in India. Particularly interesting are the following figures he gives for the Indian public library system when it is fully developed :

National Central Library	1
State Central Libraries	22
City Central Libraries	154
City Branch Libraries	712
Rural Central Libraries	373
Rural Branch Libraries	4,100
Librachines (i. e. Travelling Libraries)	13,107
Delivery stations	268,361

Dr. Ranganathan's wish is that India should realize these plans before 1980. He has also calculated "that the industries of India may have to be serviced by about 1000 industrial libraries and 500 commercial libraries"; he says : "My optimism makes me believe that these 1,500 libraries will be in full steam before 1980."

LIBRARY of Congress. *A guide to the official publications of the other American republics. . . XIX: Venezuela*. Washington, Library of Congress, 1948. 59p. (Copies obtainable from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D.C., price 15 cents.)

The publications are arranged under the following main headings : General publications (Official gazettes ; Law collections) ; Legislative Branch ; Executive Branch ; Judicial Branch ; Other Agencies.

LIBRARY of Congress. Legislative reference service. . . *Reorganization of the Executive branch of the Government of the United States : a compilation of basic information and significant documents, 1912-1948 ; compiled by W. Brooke Graves*. Washington, Library of Congress, 1949. (Public affairs bulletin no. 66) 425p. Typescript reproduced by Multilith. (Copies obtainable from the Card Division Library of Congress, Washington 25, D. C., price \$3.00.)

This compilation was originally prepared for the use of the Commission on the Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government, popularly known as the Hoover Commission. The publication as now issued includes a chronological list (1912-1948) of executive and legislative actions on the subject of reorganization ; a documentary history of important efforts at reorganization, arranged by administrations ; a section of significant proposals from other sources ; comments of the Presidents on reorganization ; and a comprehensive bibliography.

LIBRARY of Congress. Legislative reference service. . . *Alternative policies for American agriculture ; by Walter W. Wilcox*. Washington, Library of Congress, 1949 (Public affairs bulletin no. 67). 29p. Typescript reproduced by Multilith. (Copies obtainable from the Card Division, Library of Congress, Washington 25, D.C., price 25 cents.)

The contents are arranged under the following main headings :- The Need for Agricultural Legislation ; Modification of Farm Price Supports ; Conservation of Agricultural Resources.

AFDELING SPESIALE BIBLIOTEKE

S.A.B.V. Suid-Transvaalse Tak

Deel 4

Julie 1950

No. 1

DIE VADERLAND BIBLIOTEEK

G. J. VAN RENSBURG, *Bibliotekaris*

MET die verhuising verlede Julie van die Vaderland-gebou vanaf Pleinstraat in die middestad na Empireweg, Auckland Park, het dit al duidelik geblyk dat om 'n redaksie van dertigtal te dien, daar ook in 'n ruim mate voorsiening gemaak sou moet word vir die nodige fasiliteite om gou en doeltreffende naslaanwerk te verrig. Met die verloop van jare het dit reeds in die ou gebou duidelik geword dat die ou bibliotekie nie meer in al die behoeftes kon voorsien nie en ons nuwe bibliotek met 'n oppervlakte van 90 by 12 vt., is tweemaal so groot as die een wat ons in die ou gebou gebruik het. Dit is op die derde verdieping geleë en die verligting deur middel van fluoreseerende-ligte en venesiese-blindings is uitstekend en skep 'n koel atmosfeer.

Dit is nou vir my 'n genoeë om u enkele kykies in hierdie bibliotek te gee. Kom ons besoek eers die afdeling waar foto's van so vroeg as 1930 sorgvuldig bewaar word. Die algemene stelsel wat gevolg word, is om foto's wat dieselfde karakter dra almal in aparte kartonlêers met die vorm van 'n boek te plaas. So b. v. word daar lêers gehou onder die hoofde van: Algemeen, Suid-Afrikaanse Persoonlikhede, Sport, Buitelandse aangeleenthede en Buitelandse Persoonlikhede. Hierdie kartonlêers skep indrukke van boeke wat netjies op die rakke gerangskik word. Op die agterkant van elke foto kom 'n uitknipsel van die onderskrif voor, soos dit in die koerant verskyn het, met vermelding verder van die datum en die betrokke hoof waaronder dit ingedeel word. Indien so 'n foto weer benodig word, kan dit binne in 'n tydperk van vyf minute opgespoor word en met alle haas na die blokmakers gestuur word, sodat dit nog in dieselfde dag se koerant verskyn. Dit maak nie saak hoe skielik 'n gebeurtenis aan die lig kom nie, die foto is met die gebruik van hierdie stelsel altyd binne bereik.

Die tweede kykie gaan oor ons bloklêerstelsel. Op dieselfde wyse as met die foto's word die verskillende blokke gerangskik. Die blok word eers in 'n koevert geplaas, met 'n afdruk van die blok buite op die koevert sodat dadelik gesien kan word met watter tipe blok jy te doen het. Alle blokke behalwe die met enkelkolom-

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breedte word in boekkartonlêers weggebêre, presies onder dieselfde hoofde en in volgorde soos in die geval van die foto's. Die enigste onderskeid hier is, is dat dit net op aparte rakke gebêre word. Die blokke met enkelkolombreedte word ingelyks in koeverte in staalkabinette met klein laaitjies geplaas.

Derdens sal u in die koerant-afdeling ingebinde koerante van so vroeg as 1915 vind. Daar is ingebinde boekdele van ons blad toe dit nog onder die naam van „Ons Vaderland” verskyn het. Dit is ons beleid om die verskillende groot nuusblaaië elkeen op 'n leesrak op 'n aparte stok te plaas. Nadat drie maande verloop het, word dit in boekvorm gebind. In datum orde word elke koerant dus gerangskik sodat dit in 'n ommeseintjie uitgehaal kan word.

Alle groot tydskrifte word elke drie maande op dieselfde wyse in boekvorm ingebind en netjies weggebêre. Kleiner tydskrifte word in numeriese volgorde in kartonlêers gehou, terwyl eksimplare van blouboeke, staats-en offisiëlekoerante ook op dieselfde wyse geplaas word. Ons is tans besig met 'n kaartinhoudsopgawe waardeur enige belangrike artikel in 'n betrokke tydskrif onder die verskillende hoofde nageslaan kan word.

Ten laaste gee ek u 'n kykie in ons stelsel van berig-klassifikasie. Van elke belangrike berig in 'n nuusblad, binne-en buitelands, word 'n volledige uitknipsel met foto's ens. gemaak. Dit word op 'n folio geplak met die naam van die nuusblad waarin dit verskyn het en ook die datum daarop. Eers word dit in 'n gewone kartonlêer geplaas met die betrokke naam van die hooft waaronder dit verdeel word en dan word dit in alfabetiese orde in staalkabinette gerangskik. So b.v. kan u een laai vind wat uitsluitlik handel oor naturellesake, maar dit is op sy beurt weer onderverdeel in onderhoofde soos naturelle-arbeid, naturelle-vervoer, naturelle-behuising, naturelle-gesondheid, naturelle-wette en so meer. So is daar b.v. kabinette waarin u in alfabetiese orde alles oor vooraanstaande persoonlikhede kan vind. Dan is daar aparte kabinette oor sport en politiek en hier geskied klassifikasie weer in alfabetiese orde.

U sal seker wonder hoe die biblioteek nou juis in pas in die masjienerie van ons redaksie. Gestel die nuusredakteur dra aan 'n redaksielid op om onmiddellik 'n storie gereed te maak oor b.v. „Die trek van naturelle na stede”. Dan is eerste en belangrikste inligtingsbron die biblioteek. Hy nader dadelik die bibliotekaris en vra hom om die betrokke lêer uit te haal. Hy neem dan die lêer saam met hom na die redaksiekantoor waar hy nou binne enkele minute verslae van die verskillende koerante oor die hele aangeleentheid kan lees. Dit is derhalwe vir hom 'n betreklike maklike taak om die gegewens vir sy artikel te bekom.

ROYAL SOCIETY

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British Society of Soil Science.
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Geographical Association.
Geological Society of London.
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Institution of Production Engineers.
Institution of Structural Engineers.
Institution of Water Engineers.
Iron and Steel Institute.
Lancashire and Cheshire Entomological Society.
Library Association.
Liverpool Biological Society.
London Mathematical Society.
Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society.
Marine Biological Association of the United Kingdom.
Medical Institution, Liverpool.
Medical Research Council for Ireland.
Medical Society for the Study of Venereal Diseases.
Medico-Chirurgical Society of Edinburgh.
Mineralogical Society.
N.A.G. Press.
North-East Coast Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders.
Nutrition Society.
Palaeontographical Society of Great Britain and Ireland.

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Physical Society.
Physiological Society.
Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology.
Royal Aeronautical Society.
Royal Astronomical Society.
Royal Dublin Society.
Royal Entomological Society of London (Transactions and Proceedings).
Royal Forestry Society of England and Wales.
Royal Geographical Society.
Royal Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland.
Royal Horticultural Society.
Royal Institution.
Royal Medico-Psychological Association.
Royal Meteorological Society.
Royal Microscopical Society.
Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain.
Royal Sanitary Institute.
Royal Scottish Forestry Society.
Royal Scottish Geographical Society.
Royal Society.
Royal Society of Medicine.
Sawel & Sons, Limited.
Scarborough Field Naturalists' Society.
Scott Polar Research Institute.
Society for Applied Bacteriology.
Society of Dyers and Colourists.
Society of Public Analysts and other Analytical Chemists.
South Wales Institute of Engineers.
West of Scotland Iron and Steel Institute.
Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society.
Yorkshire Agricultural Society.
Zoological Society of London.

AFDELING SKOOL- EN KINDERBIBLIOTEKE

Suid-Afrikaanse Biblioteekvereniging

Deel 11

Julie 1950

No. 1

INDRUKKE OOR SKOOLBIBLIOTEKE IN ENGELAND¹

J.R. PAUW, *Gymnasium Hoërskool, Paarl*

DIE ENGELSE ONDERWYSSTELSE

DIE HELE onderwysstelsel van Engeland ondergaan vandag 'n totale verandering en hervorming as gevolg van die byna-rewolutionêre Onderwyswet van 1944 (Education Act, 1944). Kragtens hierdie wet bestaan daar vandag drie aaneenskakelende stadiums (progressive stages) in die onderwys t.w. (i) Primêre Onderwys, (ii) Sekondêre Onderwys en (iii) Voortgesette Onderwys. Dit is veral die eerste twee van hierdie groepe waarby ons ons wil bepaal.

(1) *Primêre onderwys* verskil nie veel van dié by ons nie behalwe dat kinders nie soos by ons druipe nie maar elke jaar met hulle ouderdomsgroep na die volgende klas aangaan. Daar is drie stadiums in die primêre skool, nl. die Kleuterskool (Nursery Sch.) die Kleinkinderskool (Infant School) en die Juniorskool. Op die ouderdom van 11 jaar gaan alle leerlinge na die sekondêre skool. Almal word verplig om tot hulle 15'e jaar (en dit sal later 16 word) 'n sekondêre skool by te woon.

(2) Op gebied van die *sekondêre onderwys* is daar vandag 'n baie interessante ontwikkeling aan die gang. Wanneer kinders die ouderdom van 11 jaar bereik, word hulle in drie groepe ingedeel en gaan dan na een van drie verskillende tipes van skool.

(a) Daar is die eerste tipe van kind wat slim is en belangstel in kennis om die kennis self—m.a.w. die kind wat akademies aangelê is. Vir hom is daar voorsiening gemaak in die *Grammar School* wat by uitstek die skool is wat vir die

¹Uittreksels uit 'n referaat gelewer voor die Kaapse Tak (Skool en Kinderbiblioteke) 30 November 1949.

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universiteit voorberei. Hier bly hy dan ook oor die algemeen langer as by die ander skole en wel tot op die ouderdom 18 jaar. Hy is dus betreklik ryp wanneer hy die skool verlaat en by die aankoop van boeke vir die *Grammar School* biblioteek moet hierdie ontwikkelde groep se behoeftes natuurlik in die oog gehou word. Ek mag net sê dat 'n betreklike klein persentasie van die kinders van die land na die Grammar-skole gaan.

(b) Die tweede tipe van kind is dié wat meer prakties aangelê is en wat belangstel in masjienerie, landbou, handelsvakke en dergelik meer. Vir sulke kinders is daar die *tegniese skole* wat nie enge beroepsonderwys aanbied nie (berei nie vir enige spesifieke vak of ambag voor nie) maar die kind 'n algemene voorbereiding vir 'n loopbaan in die Handel- of Nywerheidswêreld gee. Sulke skole sal natuurlik weer 'n ietwat ander oogmerk met hulle biblioteke hê.

(c) In die derde plek is daar die tipe van kind, en die oorgrote meerderheid van die land se kinders behoort tot hierdie groep, wat nie soseer in abstrakte kennis en akademiese dinge belangstel nie maar beter tot sy reg kom met konkrete tasbare dinge en met sy onmiddellike omgewing. In die praktyk beteken dit dat hierdie groep die minder-intelligente kind insluit. Hierdie kinders gaan na 'n muwe soort skool wat deur die wet van 1944 tot stand gekom het, nl. die *Secondary Modern School*. Weereens het die biblioteek 'n ander rol in so'n skool te vervul as b.v. in die *Grammar School*.

SKOOLBIBLIOTEKE IN ENGLAND

Laat my onmiddellik hier sê dat die biblioteekgedagte nog by verre na nie in die skole van Engeland tot sy reg gekom het nie. Opvoeders en onderwysers daar, soos ook hier, is nie altyd ten volle bewus van die geweldige moontlikhede wat die skoolbiblioteek inhou nie. Terwyl daar heelwat gepraat word oor vryheid in die onderwys en die aanwending van nuwere metodes, word dit blykbaar oor die algemeen nie genoeg besef hoe onmisbaar die biblioteek is indien hierdie nuwere metodes tot hulle reg moet kom nie. Ek het die indruk gekry dat daar in die *primêre skool* nog te veel aan die biblioteek gedink word in terme van 'n versameling boeke met die gevolglike aanvaarding van klaskamerbiblioteke as genoegsame biblioteekvoorsiening. In die *sekondêre skool* is die posisie nie veel beter nie. Soos ek reeds daarop gewys het, is sekondêre onderwys in Engeland nog betreklik ortodoks en formeel en, veral in die grammar-skole, word dit nog soos by ons te veel op die finale eksamen toegespits. Die gevolg is dat leerlinge so gewoon raak aan *een* handboek en aan die absorbering van kennis wat as't ware lepelgewyse aan hulle ingegee word, dat hulle nie daartoe in staat is om boeke behoorlik te gebruik nie en dat die meerderheid van studente wat na universiteite en opleidingskolleges gaan nie weet hoe om onafhanklik te studeer en inligting vir hulleself in te win nie.

INDRUKKE OOR SKOOLBIBLIOTEKE IN ENGELAND

Dit is die een kant van die saak. Daar is egter ook tekens van vooruitgang en ten spyte van die algemene agterlikheid is daar tog bewyse van 'n stadige oplewing van belangstelling wat heelwat sterker en meer georganiseerd is as die belangstelling wat daar vandag onder die onderwysers in ons land en veral in die Kaap Provinsie te bespeur is. . . Dit is 'n bemoedigende teken b.v. dat terwyl die Spens-verslag van 1938 biblioteke feitlik ignoreer, die Norwoodverslag van 1943 wat grootliks die wet van 1944 help vorm het, 'n hele afdeling aan skoolbiblioteke wy en hulle waarde sterk beklemtoon.¹ Verder is daar 'n hele aantal ywerige en bekwame onderwyser-biblioteekaris wat 'n aansienlike bydrae tot bevordering van die biblioteekgedagte gelewer het deur pragtige biblioteke in hulle skole op te bou. Daar het ook gedurende die afgelope jare twee verenigings tot stand gekom t.w. die Skoolbiblioteekvereniging en die Skole Afdeling van die Biblioteekvereniging wat in 1945 geamalgameer het en vandag onder die naam van die Skoolbiblioteekvereniging (School Library Association) bekend staan. Hierdie vereniging is heeltemaal onafhanklik van die Biblioteekvereniging en het sy eie hoofkwartiere in Londen met 'n voltydse klerikale sekretaresse. Die vereniging gee ook drie keer per jaar 'n blad uit met die naam van *The School Librarian*, waarin gepoog word om skoolbibliotekarisse op hoogte te hou met nuwe ontwikkelings. Ook gee die vereniging vanjaar 'n reeks pamfletjies uit oor verskillende aspekte van die biblioteekwese soos dit die skool raak, en hulle hoop om deur middel van die onderwysowerhede hierdie pamfletjies na elke skool te sirkuleer om sodoende skoolbibliotekarisse kans te gee om hulle kennis oor biblioteekwerk te verryk. Dit is natuurlik ook 'n waardevolle vorm van biblioteek-publisiteit en is 'n voorbeeld wat met vrug nagevolg kan word. Daar is ongelukkig op die oomblik baie min samewerking (liaison) tussen die skoolbiblioteekvereniging en die Biblioteekvereniging. Dit is jammer want dit beteken dat die georganiseerde skoolbibliotekarisse geen kontak met die georganiseerde algemene bibliotekarisse (w.o. ook gewone kinderbibliotekarisse val) het nie. Dit skyn of daar op die oomblik 'n klein meningsverskil tussen die twee verenigings bestaan omtrent die vraag van wie verantwoordelik vir 'n skoolbiblioteek moet wees—'n opgeleide biblioteekaris in die eerste instansie of 'n opgeleide onderwyser.

Dit wat die houding van onderwysers betref. Wat betref die *voorsiening van biblioteke* in die skole self, is daar ook aansienlike afwisseling. Die toestand in die primêre skole is oor die algemeen heeltemal ontoereikend. Wat die sekondêre skole betref kan daar met 'n groot mate van veiligheid gesê word dat meeste van die *grammar-skole* een of ander vorm van skoolbiblioteek het hoewel dit in baie gevalle nog maar taamlik primitief is. Hierdie skole doen in baie gevalle in hulle hoogste klas (Sixth Form) werk wat amper aan universiteitswerk gelykstaan en moet dus tenminste 'n klompie naslaanboeke hê. Maar die neiging bestaan nou om

¹ Board of Education : *Curriculum and Examinations in Secondary Schools*, pp. 76-9. (London, H. M. S. O., 1943).

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net vir hierdie ontwikkelde groep voorsiening te maak met die gevolg dat dié biblioteekvoorsiening wat daar wel gemaak word, veels te gevorderd en akademies is en dat die jonger kinders nie vroeg genoeg aangespoor word om vir hulleself te lees en te studeer en dinge na te slaan nie. Natuurlik is daar heelwat uitsonderings maar ek dink dat hulle op die oomblik nog sterk in die minderheid is.

Van biblioteke in *tegniese skole* het ek geen eerstehandse ondervinding kon opdoen nie maar volgens die getuienis van een of twee bibliotekarisse met wie ek gesels het, is daar ook 'n stadige besef aan die groei van wat 'n biblioteek vir so'n skool kan beteken.

Die derde soort sekondêre skool wat ek u genoem het, nl. die *Secondary Modern School* lewer op die oomblik nog groot moeilikheid. Eintlik is hulle die opvolgers van die Senior-en Central-skole wat voor 1944 'n veel laer status as die grammar-skole gehad het. In baie gevalle word hulle vandag nog, wat biblioteekvoorsiening betref, eerder op gelyke voet met die primêre skole as met die grammar-skole behandel. Verder moet onthou dat hierdie kinders oor die algemeen 'n laer gemiddelde intelligensie as die grammar-skool-leerlinge het en dat die werk dus so prakties en konkreet as moontlik benader word. Hierdie praktiese en konkrete benadering laat sommige mense nou dink dat boeke te abstrak is en dat 'n biblioteek in hierdie skole dus van minder belang is. Dit is 'n verkeerde idee want die gedagte is juis dat hulle deur die praktiese en konkrete benadering tot boeke gelei moet word. Die biblioteek is dus juis in hierdie skole baie belangrik *maar*, en hier lê die knoop, *dan moet die boeke van die regte soort wees*. Ons kom weer later op hierdie punt terug wanneer ons oor boekevoorsiening praat. Hoe dit ook sy, die biblioteekvoorsiening in die secondary modern-skole is nog totaal ontoereikend. Sommige onderwysowerhede besef dit en een van hulle gee op die oomblik £50 per jaar aan elkeen van hierdie skole benewens 'n permanente lening van een boek per leerling van die graafskapsbiblioteek (county library). 'n Ander moeilikheid waaronder die secondary modern-skole gebuk gaan, is dat baie van hulle in geboue gehuisves word wat gladnie as sekondêre skole gebou is nie en dus geen biblioteekkamer besit nie. Die gevolg is maar weer dat boeke in los kaste gestoor moet word. Een of twee skole het hierdie moeilikheid oorkom deur 'n ou klaskamer in 'n biblioteek om te skep maar hulle is uitsonderings want daar is vandag baie min skole in Engeland wat 'n klaskamer kan spaar.

(*Word vervolg.*)

BOEKBESPREKINGS

COLLISON, R.L. *Library assistance to readers.* London, Crosby, Lockwood, 1950. xvi, 112p. illus. 7s. 6d.

Mr. Collison, who is Librarian of the excellent City of Westminster Reference Library not five minutes from South Africa House, has written an unpretentious and straightforward handbook primarily intended for librarians in apprenticeship, but of interest also to more experienced librarians who are on the look-out for common-sense tips, as distinct from stunts and gadgets. After dealing with guides and displays in the library itself the author gives a number of hints on producing library publications and publicity material, and concludes with an account of readers' advisory work and a number of useful aids. There is nothing startlingly new here, except that eleven of the twelve illustrations really do illustrate the text. The twelfth is incorrectly described in the "list of illustrations" and consists of a pictorial diagram of the activities of a large city library in England. The symbol illustrating reference facilities resembles a featureless Dali-esque face topped by a spotted bow, and gave the reviewer a few nasty moments.

It is curious that in his short reading course at the end the author omits all mention of Savage's *Manual of Classification and Display*. D.H.V.

INTERNATIONAL federation of library associations. Proceedings of the International Library Committee, 15th session, Basle, 11-13th July, 1949 (Publications, vol XIV). The Hague, Nijhoff, 1949. 134p.

The chief matters recorded in the *Actes* or *Proceedings* for 1949 are: the admittance to the Federation of the newly-established library association of Western Germany (Verein deutscher Bibliothekare), bringing the membership to 48, of which the S.A. Library Association is one; and the preparations for the International Congress of 1950 which was to have been held at Washington, but which, according to latest reports, is not now likely to be held there on the grand scale originally envisaged. The bulk of the *Proceedings* under review comprises a series of reports on the year's work submitted to the meeting at Basle by various member-states (not including South Africa); they constitute as concise and informative an account of national developments as the busy South African librarian is likely to wish for or find to-day.

The *Proceedings* confirm, however, for at least one reader, the impression that with the rise of such bodies as FID and UNESCO with greater resources for handling the detailed problems of library organization that constantly arise in all countries, the function of IFLA becomes increasingly to act as a co-ordinating and recording body, and that its meetings are best likely to provide an occasion for annual stock-taking and, where possible, the personal exchange of opinions and views by the leading librarians in each country. These latter activities of the Federation are naturally of less immediate concern to South African librarians than the study of the various national reports, and it is therefore a pity that, through no fault of the Secretariat (which is entirely honorary) the *Actes* must appear in print so long after the events they describe.

This volume, like its predecessors, is available for loan from the library of the S.A. Library Association, Box 397, Pretoria, and librarians wishing to learn of contemporary progress in overseas librarianship—more particularly in European countries—are urged to take the opportunity of consulting it. D.H.V.

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IRWIN, Raymond, ed. The libraries of London: seventeen lectures delivered at the University of London School of Librarianship in April, 1948. London, The Library Association, 1949. iv, 234p. 13s. 6d (10s. 6d. to members).

Those of us who have used RYE: *Students' guide to the libraries of London* may have been wondering in what ways this new book differs from that standard work. The Director of the School of Librarianship tells us in his introduction:

"This present work will supplement Rye's book and bring it up to date in some respects. There is no intention that it should replace Rye. Such an aim would indeed be inappropriate. *The students' guide* might well be revised again, but it does not need to be superseded at this early stage."

The book is, in fact, a collection of seventeen essays on a selection of representative libraries or groups of libraries in London. Each is by the chief or a prominent official of the institution: the Keeper in the department of printed books writes on the British Museum, the Deputy Keeper of the Records on the Public Record Office, J. H. Pafford on the University of London Library and some other libraries of the university, and the Deputy Librarian on the National Central Library.

Each essay outlines the history of the library concerned, and treats of its general scope, its terms of admission, its catalogue, its classification and its internal administration. The chapter on Government Departmental Libraries, although short, deals with some thirty specialist libraries whose resources are too little known. Mr. Irwin himself, in his introduction, sketches the history and present position of the School of Librarianship and of the Library Association.

The work is devoted almost exclusively to special libraries of various kinds. The twenty-nine library authorities of the London boroughs with their 124 buildings and total stock of 4,000,000 volumes receive attention in only nine pages out of the two hundred and eighteen. Library facilities for collections of material other than books in a wide sense are rather ignored—there seems to be no mention of, for example, the collection of photographs in the Central Office of Information, the collection of films in the British Film Institute or the collections of the various schools of music.

But for the librarian interested in the profession there is a very great deal of useful information in this volume, which has a full bibliography and a very adequate index.

A. A.

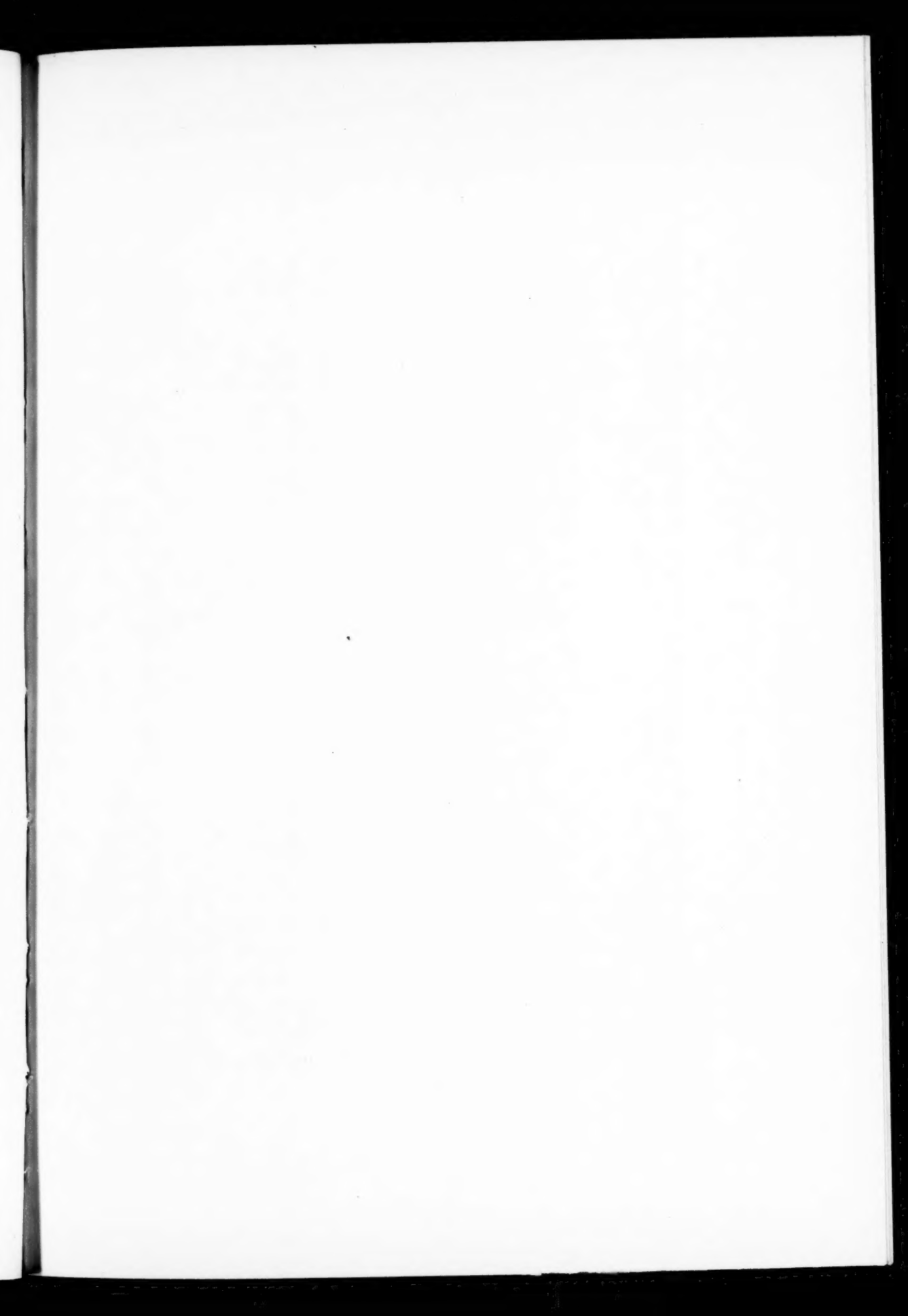
EVANS, Luther H. Bibliography by co-operation. (*Bull. Med. Libr. Ass.* 37 (3) 197-212, July 1949.)

In this paper read to the 48. annual meeting of the [American] Medical Library Association, the Librarian of Congress "depicts the problem in a somewhat larger setting than that in which it appears from the point of view of [medical] interests, and suggests methods of attack . . . in the broadest possible terms". Dr. Evans indicates that the bibliographic activity of the future must be co-ordinated; that bibliography will be either co-operative or chaotic. We can take our choice. A very important paper concluding: "I also see, under the bibliographic leadership of librarians, the professionals of all disciplines of the mind contributing . . . to the totality of necessary bibliographic controls of the world's output of scholarly resources, so that research may build . . . on its own achievements, knowledge be more systematically communicated, and the arduous journeys of the race be made by better lighted paths."

P. F.

NEW Zealand library association. *Proceedings of the seventeenth conference and report of the Twentieth annual meeting held at Napier, 17-20 May, 1948.* Wellington, New Zealand library association, 1948. 93p.

It is always a pleasure to look through publications issued by the New Zealand Library Association—they are invariably pleasantly written and pleasantly produced. This account of the



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Kan ons ons bestaan regverdig? *P. C. Coetzee*: 1 Suid-Afrikaanse Biblioteekvereniging Jaarlikse Konferensie, 1949: 3 Boekbesprekings: 26, 35
 Die Vaderland Biblioteek, *C. J. van Rensburg*: 31 Indrukke oor Skoolbiblioteke in Engeland, *J. R. Pauw*: 36

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